

Erica Hurwitz Andrus

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Education:

2006	PhD., Religious Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara
Summer 1995	Ethnographic Video Workshop in Oaxaca, Maine Photographic and Video Workshops
1995	M.A. with Distinction, Religion and Culture, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario
1992	B.A., Religion, Oberlin College

Professional Experience:

2018 – Present	Director, Jewish Studies Program, University of Vermont
2015 – Present	Senior Lecturer, University of Vermont, Burlington
2019 – Present	Chair, Delegates Assembly, United Academics
2016 – 2017	Contract Bargaining Team, United Academics
2014 – Present	Delegate, United Academics of UVM,
2008 – 2015	Lecturer, University of Vermont, Burlington Duties include designing and teaching courses in comparative religion, religion and popular culture, and religion in America. Using Blackboard to organize course materials and activities. (full time beginning in Fall, 2009)
2007 - Present	Co-owner Boundbrook Farm and Good Companion Bakery, Ferrisburgh, VT.
2002 - 2006	Lecturer, University of Vermont, Burlington (see duties above)
2000 - 2002	Teaching Associate, University of California, Santa Barbara Duties included designing and teaching courses on African American religious history in the Black Studies Department

- 1998 - 2000 Teaching Assistant, University of California, Santa Barbara
Duties included leading discussion sections for courses on a variety of topics
- 1997 - 2002 Programmer and Host, *Festival Americana* on KCSB 91.9 FM, Santa Barbara
- 1995 - 1997 Writer/Researcher: *Sound and Spirit*, Public Radio International, Produced at WGBH Radio, Boston. Duties included script writing, selecting appropriate music, and researching for radio shows on religion and spirituality
- 1995 - 1997 Production Associate, *Art of the States*, WGBH, Boston
Duties included research and writing of notes to accompany music selected for export to international audiences via subscribing radio stations.
- 1995 - 1997 Assistant to Classical Music Producer/Engineer Joel Gordon.
Duties included assisting on recording live concerts and recording sessions, editing with Sonic Solutions digital editing system, bookkeeping, and various other duties.
- 1992 - 1993 Production Assistant, *Art of the States* (see above for duties)
- 1988 - 1992 Audio Engineer, Oberlin Audio Department, Oberlin College, Ohio. Duties included recording and editing concerts and sessions at the Oberlin Conservatory, and live sound reinforcement at College events and concerts.

PhD Field Examinations:

(Spring, 2000)

American Religions: 1820 - 1920, Dr. Catherine L. Albanese

Religion in the American South, Dr. Wade Clark Roof

Vernacular Music and Religion in America,
Dr. Timothy L. Cooley and Dr. Dwight Reynolds

Peer Reviewed Publications:

"'The Renovation Starts Now!': Rite-of-Passage Reality Television," in *Religion and Reality TV: Faith in Late Capitalism*, Mara Einstien, Katherine Madden, and Diane Winston, eds. New York: Routledge, 2018.

"Screen Narratives: Film and Television," in *Narrated Religion*. Sarah Iles Johnson, ed. *Macmillan Interdisciplinary Handbooks: Religion*, Jeffrey J. Kripal, ed. Farmington, MI: Macmillan/Cengage, 2017.

"*Battlestar Galactica* and *Caprica*: Using Religion to Create Imagined Worlds" in *Revisiting Imaginary Worlds: A Subcreation Anthology*. Mark J.P. Wolf, ed. New York: Routledge, 2017.

"Fandom in *The Big Lebowski*" in *Coen: Framing Religion in Amoral Order*, Elijah Seigler, ed. Waco, Tx: Baylor University Press, 2016. 113-130.

"Remembering Laura Roslin: Fictional Death and a Real Bereavement Community Online," in *Digital Death: Mortality and Beyond in the Online Age*. Christopher Moreman and A. David Lewis, eds. Praeger, 2014, 161-180.

Other Publications:

"Michel Desjardins: An Angel of Academia" *Religious Studies and Theology* (38:1-2) 2019. 190-192. Invited.

Review of *Religion in America: The Basics* by Michael Pasquier. *Reading Religion*. American Academy of Religion. May, 2018. <https://readingreligion.org/books/religion-america>

Academic Fellowships and Awards:

2019-2020	Faculty Fellow for Diversity and Inclusion, UVM, Burlington
2019	Summer Scholar, "Privilege and Prejudice: Jewish History in the American South," NEH Summer Institute, Pearlstine/Lipov Center for Southern Jewish Culture, College of Charleston, South Carolina
2018	Faculty Fellow for Service Learning, UVM, Burlington
2016-2017	Faculty Fellow for Sustainability, UVM, Burlington
2004	Nominated for Outstanding Service-Learning Faculty Award, UVM
2004	Certificate of Gratitude, class of 2004, UVM
2003	Faculty Fellow for Service Learning, UVM, Burlington
2001	Graduate Research Fellow, Smithsonian Institution
2001	Professor Robert S. Michaelsen Memorial Award
2000	Humanities and Social Sciences Research Grant, UCSB

Guest Lectures and Conference Papers:

"Religion in Public Schools in Vermont," report on sabbatical research to the Religion and Education Collaborative, via Zoom. April 2019. Invited.

"Us or Them: Sci-Fi, Politics, and Religion in *Battlestar Galactica*" Religion, Narrative, and Media Symposium Lecture Series, Center for the Study of Religion and the Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, Feb. 2018. Invited.

"From Handmaid to Gardener: Margaret Atwood Gets Religion," American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Boston, Nov. 2017. Peer reviewed.

"'None' is the New Faith: Fluidity in Religious and Sexual Identity in *Orange is the New Black*" Media, Gender and Religion Conference, Center for Media and Religion, Boulder, CO, Jan. 2016. Peer reviewed.

"Pluralism and Religious Freedom in American History." Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Rutland (Sept. 2015) and Barre (Mar. 2016). Invited.

"Lego Apotheosis: How an Invented Religion Helped Create the Bionicle Empire," American Academy of Religion, Annual Meeting, San Diego, Nov. 2014. Peer reviewed.

"The Case of the Disappearing 'Oriental Monk': The Dude, Fan Religion, and the Consumption of 'Asian Wisdom,'" American Academy of Religion, Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Nov. 2013. Peer reviewed.

"Monsters in Post-9/11 Science Fiction Television: Firefly and Battlestar Galactica," 75 Years of Science Fiction: An Interdisciplinary Conference, University of Vermont, April, 2013. Co-organizer of the conference. Invited.

"Remembering Laura Roslin: Fictional Death and a Real Bereavement Community Online," American Academy of Religion, Annual Meeting, Chicago, Nov. 2012. Peer reviewed.

"Holy Smokes: Pipe, Incense, and Religion," Fleming Art Museum Noontime Café series, University of Vermont, April, 2012. Invited.

"Beginning a Dialogue: A Model for Service Learning in 'Religion in America' at the University of Vermont" NEH Conference, "Ethics, Religion, and Civil Discourse," California State University, Fresno, October, 2011. Peer reviewed.

"Battlestar Galactica: Monotheism and the Debunking of the Clash of Civilizations in American Popular Culture," IAHR Congress, Toronto, Ontario, August, 2010. Peer reviewed.

"The Model Church," American Academy of Religion, Annual Meeting, San Antonio, November, 2004. Peer reviewed.

Invited member of panel discussion of Music and Religion, for "Music and Popular Culture" session, American Academy of Religion, Annual Meeting, 2004.

"Honoring the Father (of Bluegrass Music): Pilgrimages to the Bill Monroe Memorial Music Park in Bean Blossom, Indiana," American Academy of Religion, Annual Meeting, Nashville, November, 2000. Peer reviewed.

"The God of Poet Farmers: Ecology, the Vanderbilt Agrarians, and Nature Religion," American Academy of Religion, Annual Meeting, November, 2000. Peer reviewed.

"Appalachian Regional Religion," invited guest lecture in Introduction to American Religion, University of California, Santa Barbara, November 1999. Repeated, November, 2000.

"Modern Near-Death Experiences and the History of Spiritualism in America," invited guest lecture in Introduction to the study of Religion, University of California, Santa Barbara, March, 1999.

"High Lonesome Gospel: Evangelical Christianity in Bluegrass from Bill Monroe to Ron Block," American Academy of Religion, Annual Meeting, 1998. Peer reviewed.

Workshops:

2015 Foundational Writing and Information Literacy Institute

2014 Writing in the Disciplines Institute

2013 CTL Workshop *Engaging Students in Large Enrolment Classes*

2012 and 2011 CTL Workshops on Class Discussions and Engaged Learning

2011 Writing in the Disciplines, Mini-Institute on Teaching the Large Lecture Class

2010 Teaching Effectively Online

Courses Taught:

Introduction to Jewish Studies, UVM

Judaism in America, UVM

Creating Community: Religions in America (TAP), UVM

Religion on the Screen (TAP), UVM

Imagined Worlds in Religion and Popular Culture, UVM Honors College

Religious Perspectives on Sustainability, UVM

Religion, Film, and Television in the US, UVM

Religion and Popular Culture in America, UVM

Religion, Ethnicity, and Literature in America, UVM

Race and Religion in America, UVM

Music and Religion in America, UVM

Religion in America, UVM

Comparing Religions

(Formerly titled: Introduction to Religion: Comparative), UVM, including online version

Religion in Black America, Part II (Winter), UCSB

Religion in Black America, Part I (Fall), UCSB

Religion in America (Summer), UCSB